

M.L.A. REPORTS VAST IRON ORE FIELD IS FOUND

Secret Work Going On for
Over Year Near Lakehead,
He Tells House

EXPECTS BIG INDUSTRY

Discovery in the Steep Rock area, 100 miles west of the Lakehead, of a vast area of hematite (iron) ore that requires no beneficiation before marketing was claimed in the Legislature yesterday by Frank Spence, Conservative member for Fort William, who saw in the exploratory work now being conducted the first definite step toward the greatest development Northern Ontario will ever witness.

Mr. Spence told the House that extensive confirming diamond drilling, both deep and shallow, had been done by the interests backing the discovery, and crossed the Chamber to present Premier Hepburn with a 12-pound sample of the ore recovered, the first sample, he said, to be exhibited since the find was made.

Secret Work Going on.

"We have always been confident up where I live," he said, "that somewhere on the Canadian side of the lake hematite would be found. Secret work, fully financed, has been going on for the last year and a half. This is no promotion. They have all the money they need and the company is all-Canadian."

Subsequently, the Fort William member expressed the opinion that the area now being delimited was a continuation of the great Mesabi iron range in the United States that had been responsible for the development of such great cities as Duluth, and the establishment of the mighty mid-Western steel industry. "Once this industry gets in full swing up there," he said, "the North is bound to go ahead by leaps and bounds."

Adequate Roads Called For.

Mr. Spence envisioned what such an industry would mean to Ontario, Canada and the British Empire, if the present war clouds were to deluge them with another catastrophe such as 1914-1918. But in order to make full use of its potentialities, the present trans-Canada highway and other arterial roads would have to be completed. Adequate roads, he said, would also tend to uncover other new natural resources and would be required, additionally, for the transport of troops if troops were ever needed here.

Mr. Spence reiterated his demand for an investigation of the recent financial collapse of Lake Sulphite, Ltd., and challenged Charles W. Cox, former Cabinet Minister, and member for Port Arthur (who was absent) to rise before the budget debate concluded and state his position on the highly controversial issue.

"The people want reassurance that everything with the project was all right and above board. They've got to get that assurance or they may lose confidence in our Northern developments," he said.

SWEEPSTAKES VOTE THURSDAY

Hepburn Announces House
to Divide Same Day on
Power Bill

LEGISLATURE ACTIVE

Voting on three highly controversial issues before the Ontario Legislature was slated yesterday by Premier Hepburn for Thursday, when he deferred the final act on the sweepstakes motion to that date.

In addition to the vote on that non-party question which split party lines in Monday's debate, votes will be taken on the bill to validate the new Quebec power contracts and on the motion to go into committee of supply, which marks formally the close of the Budget debate.

The time of the voting was set after David A. Croll, Windsor-Walkerville, announced to the House that he would be unable to attend today's sitting, and in order that there might be no misunderstanding of his absence in event of a vote being called, he stated he was supporting the Government on the Budget and Hydro contract issues, and that he was in favor of the sweepstakes motion.

Premier Hepburn then stated he would be pleased to hold voting on all three over until Thursday.